

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: KATO, et al.  
Application No.: 10/796,195  
Filed: March 10, 2004  
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING  
METHOD THEREFOR  
Group Art Unit: TBD  
Examiner: TBD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98**

Mail Stop DD  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 2, 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find full English translations and English Abstracts for each of the following Japanese patent documents:

- (1) JP No. 02-065252;
- (2) JP No. 02-178946; and
- (3) JP No. 62-216315.

Further enclosed herewith is a copy of an English Abstract for JP No. 63-153270.

Also enclosed is a Form, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, indicating filing of the patent Abstracts and of the full English translations, for each of the above-listed documents (1)-(3), and the Abstract for JP No. 63-153270.

Please note that each of JP No. 62-216315, JP No. 2-178946, JP No. 2-65252 and JP No. 63-153270 has been indicated as being previously considered by the Examiner; note Sheets 4, 5, 13 and 14 of 17, enclosed with the Information Disclosure Statement filed March 10, 2004, in the above-identified application. Note that partial translations and/or Abstracts have previously been submitted for JP No. 62-216315, JP No. 2-178946 and JP No. 2-65252; full English translations of these documents, as well as Abstracts, are presently being submitted. A full translation of JP No. 63-153270 was previously submitted in connection with JP No. 63-153270, as indicated on Sheet 16 of 17 of the Information Disclosure Statement submitted upon originally filing the above-identified application; and only an English Abstract of this patent document is enclosed herewith.

Please note that since each of the Japanese patent documents has previously been submitted and has been indicated as considered by the Examiner, copies of the Japanese patent documents per se are not enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted prior to a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified application; and, in fact, less than three months after filing thereof. Clearly, requirements of 37 CFR § 1.97(b) are satisfied.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Form. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing

of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135  
(Case No. 503.30414C56) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit  
Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William I. Solomon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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EXAMINER'S INITIALS	PATENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation/ Abstract	
						Yes	No
	02-065252	3/5/1990	Japan			X	
	02-178946	7/11/1990	Japan			X	
	62-216315	9/22/1987	Japan			X	
	63-153270	6/25/1998	Japan			X	


**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.